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HOGAN & HARTSON LLP ONE TABOR CENTER, SUITE 1500 1200 SEVENTEEN ST. DENVER, CO 80202			TANG, KUO LIANG J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2122	

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/931,037

Applicant(s)

KONG ET AL.

Examiner

Kuo-Liang J Tang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/15/2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17,23 and 24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17,23 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed on 11/15/2004.

The priority date for this application is 8/17/2001.

Claims 1-2, 13-15 and 23 are amended.

Claims 18-22 are cancelled.

Claim 24 is added.

Claims 1-17 and 23-24 are pending and have been examined.

***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 and 23-24 have been considered but they are not persuasive.

Claims 1-2, 13, 15 and 23 are amended.

Claims 18-22 are cancelled.

Claim 24 is added.

Claims 1-17, 23 and 24 are pending.

Claims 1-7 and 23-24 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Netscape's BuyerXpert product published on June 1999 (see "Industry Slices Up Procurement Pie", page 2, line 7), because the BuyerXpert was acquired by SUN and there is no detailed information can be found in the Netscape web site, therefore the examiner uses the "BuyerXpert 4.1 SP3 Upgrade Guide" (hereinafter BuyerXpert) prior art from SUN Inc. website as a supporting reference.

Claims 1-3, 12-17 and 23-24 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoyle, US Patent No. 6,628,314.

Claim 4 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Bacon et al. US Patent No. 6,697,784 (herein after Bacon).

Claim 5 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Burger et al. US Patent No. 6,779,082 (herein after Burger).

Claim 6 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Fushimi et al. US Pub No. 2004/0148232 A1 (herein after Fushimi).

Claim 7 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Flores et al. US Patent No. 5,630,069 (herein after Flores).

Claim 8 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of McFarlin et al. US Pub No. 2002/0023001 (herein after McFarlin).

Claim 9 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Styles et al. US Pub No. 2004/0098446 (herein after Styles).

Claim 10 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Cason et al. US Patent No. 6,681,229 (herein after Cason).

Claim 11 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Murren et al. US Pub No. 2003/0167401 (herein after Murren).

*In the amendment, the applicants argue that:*

(A) As for claims 1-23, the Applicants primarily argues that “BuyerXpert 3.0” and “BuyerXpert 4.1 SP3” are different products (see Admendment page 9, last prragraph).

(B) As for Claim 1, Hoyle falls to teach providing modules in a user interface and receiving the various user input called (see Amendment page 10, last 4 lines).

**Examiner's response:**

(A) The examiner disagrees with Applicants' assertion. In fact, the examiner treats them as the same product because they are product of "BuyerXpert". The examiner interprets that the "BuyerXpert 4.1 SP3" is just a minor improvement/enhancement compared to "BuyerXpert 3.0". Applicants are asked to provide evidence that the cited features of this application in "BuyerXpert 4.1 SP3" can not be found in "BuyerXpert 3.0" (e.g. release notes / documentations showing newly added features).

(B) The examiner disagrees with Applicants' assertion. In fact, Hoyle teaches providing modules in a user interface (E.g. see FIG.6 GUI (Graphic User Interface) Module and associated text).

***Specification***

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Para. [0016], line 8, "... module 210, as shown in Fig. 1." (See Admendment page, 2, line20). Module 210 can not be found in Fig. 1.

Appropriate correction is required.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-7 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Netscape's BuyerXpert product published on June 1999 (see "Industry Slices Up Procurement Pie", page 2, line 7), because the BuyerXpert was acquired by SUN and there is no detailed information can be found in the Netscape web site, therefore the examiner uses the "BuyerXpert 4.1 SP3 Upgrade Guide" (hereinafter BuyerXpert) prior art from SUN Inc. website as a supporting reference.

As Per Claim 1, BuyerXpert teaches that the Upgrade utility provides a graphical interface that allows you to initiate, manage, and monitor upgrade sessions. At any point you can stop the Upgrade utility and restart it at a later time (E.g. see page 6, Section "How to use the Upgrade Utility"). In that BuyerXpert discloses the method that covering a method for dynamically upgrading software applications in a distributed network, comprising the steps of:

"providing a set of modules in a user interface" (E.g. see page 15, Figure and associated text);

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“receiving user input indicating a selection of at least one of the modules (E.g. see page 6, lines 20-25) for upgrade”;

“receiving user input indicating a selection of at least one component (E.g. see page 7, lines 8-9) among a set of components associated with the at least one module (E.g. see page 6, lines 20-25) for upgrade”;

“receiving user input indicating a selection of at least one source site parameter (E.g. see page 7, lines 10-12) providing location information for the selected at least one of the modules” (E.g. see page 16 Figures and associated text);

“generating a profile of at least one upgrade application based upon the selected at least one module, at least one component and at least one source and destination parameter (E.g. see page 13, Figure “Select Profile Screen”, function “Create New Profile” and associated text)”;

and

“retrieving at least one upgrade application based upon the generated profile (E.g. see page 13, Figure “Select Profile Screen”, selection box “Profiles” and associated text)”.

As Per claims 2-17, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and are under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 1.

As Per Claim 23, is the computer-readable medium claim corresponding to the method claim 1 and is rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 1.

As Per Claim 24, BuyerXpert teaches:

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“receiving a user request for an application upgrade” (E.g. see page 7, lines 10-12);

“providing a plurality of modules for the application upgrade, each of the modules comprising a set of functional components” (E.g. see page 16 Figures and associated text);

“receiving user input selecting a subset of the modules for use in the application upgrade” (E.g. see page 12-22, Section “Using the Upgrade Utility User Interface” and associated text);

“for each of the modules in the selected subset receiving user input selecting one or more of the functional components associated with that module for upgrade” (E.g. see page 12-22, Section “Using the Upgrade Utility User Interface” and associated text);

“retrieving an upgrade utility for each of the selected functional components for each of the modules in the selected subset” (E.g. see page 13, Figure “Select Profile Screen”, selection box “Profiles” and associated text); and

“upgrading each of the selected functional components by invoking the retrieved upgrade utilities” (E.g. see page 12-22, Section “Using the Upgrade Utility User Interface” and associated text).

6. Claims 1-3, 12-17 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoyle, US Patent No. 6,628,314.

As Per Claim 1, Hoyle teaches that a method and apparatus for providing an automatically upgradeable software application that includes targeted advertising based upon demographics and user interaction with the computer. (E.g. see Abstract and associated text). In that Hoyle discloses the method that covering a method for dynamically upgrading software applications in a distributed network, comprising the steps of:



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“providing a set of modules in a user interface” (E.g. see FIG. 4 & 6 and associated text, e.g. FIG. 6 GUI (Graphic User Interface) Module);

“receiving user input indicating a selection of at least one component (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 246 and associated text) among a set of components associated with the at least one module for upgrade”;

“receiving user input indicating a selection of at least one of the modules for upgrade” (E.g. see FIG. 4, auxiliary module 66 and associated text) for upgrade”;

“receiving user input indicating a selection of at least one source (E.g. see FIG. 7, column “Image File” and associated text”) site parameter (E.g. see FIG. 7, column “Priority” and associated text”) providing location information for the selected at least one of the modules” (E.g. see FIG. 7 and associated text);

“generating a profile (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 238 and associated text) of at least one upgrade application based upon the selected at least one module, at least one component and at least one source and destination parameter”; and

“retrieving at least one upgrade application based upon the generated profile (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 250 “Download and Install New Component(s)” and associated text”).

As Per claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“wherein the at least one module is at least one of ..., a rules module(E.g. see FIG. 4, ADM module 14 and associated text, e.g. col. 8:15-16, which states “ADM module 14 simply providing the basic logic and rules which govern the display and reporting functions.”), ...”.

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As Per claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“wherein the at least one module (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 252 (auxiliary module 66) and associated text) includes at least one associated component (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 246 and associated text)”.

As Per claim 12, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“wherein the step of generating a profile includes the steps of:

generating an import file (E.g. see FIG. 13, “Access updated Blueprint(Import file) from ADM Server” 240 and associated text); and

downloading the import file to an import/export utility (E.g. see FIG. 13, “Access updated Blueprint from ADM Server” 240 and associated text)”.

As Per claim 13, the rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“wherein the import file includes the selected module type information, location information including location information for the retrieved at least one upgrade application, operation information and business object information (E.g. see FIG. 7 and FIG. 13, “Access Version Numbers for each Upgradeable Component in Client Application” 236 and “Generate Current Blueprint” 238 and associated text. The examiner interprets the blueprint in Client has the same format as the blueprint in ADM server)”.

As Per claim 14, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“including the step of upgrading the at least one module selected for upgrade with the retrieved at least one upgrade application (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 250 and associated text)” .

As Per claim 15, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“including the step of indicating the status of the upgrading (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 242 and associated text)”.

As Per claim 16, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches

“including the step of generating a report (E.g. see FIG. 10 “Report computer Usage Information” 182 and associated text) for the at least one upgrade application”.

As Per claim 17, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Hoyle teaches:

“wherein the at least one upgrade utility includes at least one business object (E.g. see col. 15:11-12)”.

As Per Claim 23, Hoyle teaches:

“providing a set of modules in a user interface” (E.g. see FIG. 4 & 6 and associated text, e.g. FIG. 6 GUI (Graphic User Interface) Module);

“receiving user input comprising at least one module selection” (E.g. see FIG. 4 & 6 and associated text, e.g. FIG. 6 GUI (Graphic User Interface) Module);

“receiving user input comprising at least one component (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 246 and associated text) selection from a set of components associated with the at least one module selection”;

“receiving user input comprising at least one source (E.g. see FIG. 7, column “Image File” and associated text”) parameter (E.g. see FIG. 7, column “Priority” and associated text”) providing a location associated with the at least one module selection or the at least one component selection” (E.g. see FIG. 7 and associated text);

“generating an upgrade profile (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 238 and associated text) based upon the received module selection, component selection and source and destination parameter”;

“retrieving an upgrade application based on the upgrade profile”; and

“upgrading the at least one component using the upgrade application and based upon the received at least one source parameter” (E.g. see FIG. 13, block 250 “Download and Install New Component(s)” and associated text).

As Per Claim 24, Hoyle teaches a method for enabling a user to selectively and dynamically update software applications, comprising:

“receiving a user request for an application upgrade” (E.g. see FIG. 4 & 6 and associated text, e.g. FIG. 6 GUI (Graphic User Interface) Module);

“providing a plurality of modules for the application upgrade, each of the modules comprising a set of functional components” (E.g. see FIG. 4, 6-7 and associated text);

“receiving user input selecting a subset of the modules for use in the application upgrade” (E.g. see FIG. 4, 6, 11 and associated text, e.g. FIG. 6 GUI (Graphic User Interface) Module);

“for each of the modules in the selected subset, receiving user input selecting one or more of the functional components associated with that module for upgrade” (E.g. see FIG. 11 and associated text);

“retrieving an upgrade utility for each of the selected functional components for each of the modules in the selected subset” (E.g. see FIG. 13 block 250, FIG. 14 block 264 and associated text); and

“upgrading each of the selected functional components by invoking the retrieved upgrade utilities” (E.g. see FIG. 13 -14 and associated text).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Bacon et al. US Patent No. 6,697,784 (herein after Bacon).

As Per claim 4, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the workflow module is associated with a unit component. However, Bacon in an analogous art teaches “disclose the workflow module is associated with a process definitions component (E.g. see Figure 2, process definitions 207 and associated text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Bacon into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the workflow module with a unit

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component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a process definitions component of the workflow module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

9. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Burger et al. US Patent No. 6,779,082 (herein after Burger).

As Per Claim 5, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the OMS module is associated with a unit component. However, Burger in an analogous art teaches “disclose the OMS module is associated with a unit component (E.g. see Figure 1, OMS Manager unit 110a and associated text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Burger into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the OMS module with a unit component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the OMS module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

10. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Fushimi et al. US Pub No. 2004/0148232 A1 (herein after Fushimi).

As Per Claim 6, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the catalog module is associated with a unit component. However, Fushimi in an analogous art teaches “disclose the catalog module is associated with a unit component (E.g. see Page 2, Section [0015], catalog viewing permission unit). Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Fushimi into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the catalog module with a catalog views and permissions

component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the catalog module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

11. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Flores et al. US Patent No. 5,630,069 (herein after Flores).

As Per Claim 7, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the rules module is associated with a workflow component. However, Flores in an analogous art teaches “disclose the rules module is associated with a unit component (E.g. see FIG. 4, block 33 “Workflow rules”, component “workflow” in block 31 and associated text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Flores into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the rules module with a workflow component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the catalog module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

12. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of McFarlin et al. US Pub No. 2002/0023001 (herein after McFarlin).

As Per Claim 8, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the orders module is associated with a completed orders component and an in-progress orders component. However, McFarlin in an analogous art teaches “disclose the orders module is associated with a completed orders (E.g. see Page 7, Section [0083]) component and an in-progress orders (E.g. see Page 7, Section [0081])component. Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of

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McFarlin into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the orders module with a completed orders component and an in-progress orders component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the catalog module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

13. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Styles et al. US Pub No. 2004/0098446 (herein after Styles).

As Per Claim 9, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the membership module is associated with an organization unit component or a users group component. However, Styles in an analogous art teaches “disclose the membership module is associated with an organization units component or a users group (E.g. see FIG.5 and associated text, e.g. see page 5 Section [0062]) component. Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Styles into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the membership module with an organization unit component or a users group component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the catalog module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

14. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Cason et al. US Patent No. 6,681,229 (herein after Cason).

As Per Claim 10, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the accounting and commodity codes module is associated with an accounting codes component and a commodity codes component. However, Cason in an analogous art teaches “disclose the accounting and commodity codes



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module is associated with an accounting codes component and a commodity codes (E.g. see FIG.5 and associated text, e.g. see page 5 Section [0062]) component. Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Cason into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the accounting and commodity codes module with an accounting codes component and a commodity codes component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the catalog module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

15. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyle in view of Murren et al. US Pub No. 2003/0167401 (herein after Murren).

As Per Claim 11, Hoyle does not explicitly disclose the permissions and commodity codes module is associated with a permission level component. However, Cason in an analogous art teaches “disclose the permissions module is associated with a permission (E.g. see FIG.5 and associated text, e.g. see page 16, Claim 36) component. Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Murren into the teaching of Hoyle to associate the permissions module with a permission component. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use upgrade a unit component of the catalog module in the software application using a profile upgrade utility.

***Conclusion***

16. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

***Correspondence Information***

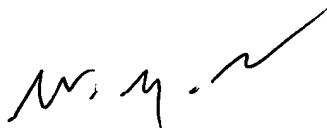
17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuo-Liang J Tang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3705. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 7:00PM (Monday – Thursday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Xiao-Liang J. Tang*

Software Engineer Patent Examiner

  
WEI Y. ZHEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER